

**Information for the Patient
ZYBAN® (zi ban)
(bupropion hydrochloride)
Sustained-Release Tablets**

Please read this information before you start taking ZYBAN. Also read this leaflet each time you renew your prescription, in case anything has changed. This information is not intended to take the place of discussions between you and your doctor. You and your doctor should stop ZYBAN as part of your plan to stop smoking. Your doctor has prescribed ZYBAN for your use only. Do not let anyone else use your ZYBAN.

IMPORTANT WARNING:

There is a chance that approximately 1 out of every 1,000 people taking bupropion hydrochloride, the active ingredient in ZYBAN, will have a seizure. The chance of this happening increases if you:

- have or have had a seizure disorder (for example, epilepsy);
- have or have had an eating disorder (for example, bulimia or anorexia nervosa);
- are abruptly discontinuing use of alcohol or sedatives (including benzodiazepines);
- take more than the recommended amount of ZYBAN; or
- take other medicines with the same active ingredient that is in ZYBAN, such as WELLBUTRIN® (bupropion hydrochloride) Tablets, WELLBUTRIN SR® (bupropion hydrochloride) Sustained-Release Tablets, and WELLBUTRIN XL® (bupropion hydrochloride extended-release tablets). (These medicines are used to treat depression).

You can reduce the chance of experiencing a seizure by following your doctor's directions on how to take ZYBAN. If you experience a seizure while taking ZYBAN, stop taking the tablets immediately, contact your doctor, and do not restart ZYBAN. In addition, tell your doctor if you have or have had other medical conditions. You should also discuss with your doctor whether ZYBAN is right for you.

Important information I should know and share with my family about taking antidepressants.

Although ZYBAN is not a treatment for depression, it contains the same active ingredient as the antidepressant medications WELLBUTRIN, WELLBUTRIN SR, and WELLBUTRIN XL. Therefore, you should be aware of the following information. Patients taking antidepressants, and their families, should watch out for worsening depression or thoughts of suicide. Also watch out for sudden or severe changes in feelings such as feeling anxious, agitated, panicky, irritable, hostile, aggressive, impulsive, severely restless, overly excited and hyperactive, not being able to sleep, or other unusual changes in behavior. If this happens, especially at the beginning of antidepressant treatment or after a change in dose, call your doctor.

A patient Medication Guide will be provided to you with each prescription of ZYBAN entitled "About Using Antidepressants in Children and Teenagers." ZYBAN is not approved for use in children and teenagers.

1. What is ZYBAN?

ZYBAN is a prescription medicine to help people quit smoking. Studies have shown that more than one third of people who quit smoking for at least 1 month while taking ZYBAN and participating in a patient support program. For many patients, ZYBAN reduces withdrawal symptoms and the urge to smoke. ZYBAN should be used with a patient support program. It is important to participate in a behavioral program, counseling, or other support program your health care professional recommends.

2. Who should not take ZYBAN?

- You should not take ZYBAN if you: have or have had a seizure disorder (for example, epilepsy); are already taking WELLBUTRIN, WELLBUTRIN SR, WELLBUTRIN XL, or any other medicines that contain bupropion hydrochloride; have or have had an eating disorder (for example, bulimia or anorexia nervosa); are abruptly discontinuing use of alcohol or sedatives (including benzodiazepines); are currently taking or have recently taken a monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI); or are allergic to bupropion.
- Can I take ZYBAN if I have mild-to-moderate chronic bronchitis and/or emphysema (also called chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or COPD)? Yes, ZYBAN combined with a behavior modification program has been shown to help people with COPD quit smoking. It is important to participate in the behavior program, counseling, or other support program your health care professional recommends.
- Are there special concerns for women? ZYBAN is not recommended for women who are pregnant or breastfeeding. Women should notify their doctor if they become pregnant or intend to become pregnant while taking ZYBAN.

3. Are there any concerns for patients with liver or kidney problems?

If you have liver or kidney problems, tell your doctor before taking ZYBAN. Depending on the severity of your condition, your doctor may need to adjust your dosage.

4. How should I take ZYBAN?

You should take ZYBAN as directed by your doctor. The usual recommended dosing is to take one 150-mg tablet in the morning for the first 3 days. On the fourth day, begin taking one 150-mg tablet in the morning and one 150-mg tablet in the early evening. Doses should be taken at least 8 hours apart.

5. Never take an "extra" dose of ZYBAN.

If you forget to take a dose, do not take an extra tablet to "catch up" for the dose you forgot. Wait and take your next tablet at the regular time. Do not take more tablets than your doctor prescribed. This is important so you do not increase your chance of having a seizure.

6. It is important to swallow ZYBAN tablets whole. Do not chew, divide, or crush tablets.

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PHARMACIST—DETACH HERE AND GIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO PATIENT. ALSO PROVIDE AN APPROVED MEDICATION GUIDE ABOUT USING ANTIDEPRESSANTS IN CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS.

ZYBAN® (bupropion hydrochloride) Sustained-Release Tablets

Suicidality in Children and Adolescents

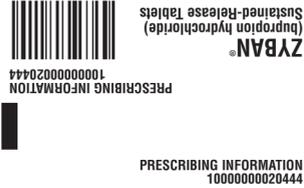
Although ZYBAN is not indicated for treatment of depression, it contains the same active ingredient as the antidepressant medications WELLBUTRIN®, WELLBUTRIN SR®, and WELLBUTRIN XL®. Antidepressants increased the risk of suicidal thinking and behavior (suicidality) in short-term studies in children and adolescents with Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) and other psychiatric disorders. Anyone considering the use of ZYBAN or any other antidepressant in a child or adolescent must balance this risk with the clinical need. Patients who are started on therapy should be observed closely for clinical worsening, suicidality, or unusual changes in behavior. Families and caregivers should be advised of the need for close observation and communication with the prescriber. ZYBAN is not approved for use in pediatric patients. (See WARNINGS and PRECAUTIONS: Pediatric Use.)

Pooled analyses of short-term (4 to 16 weeks) placebo-controlled trials of 9 antidepressant drugs (SSRIs and others) in children and adolescents with MDD (including bupropion hydrochloride) Sustained-Release Tablets and WELLBUTRIN SR (bupropion hydrochloride) Sustained-Release Tablets), ZYBAN is also chemically unrelated to tricyclic, tetracyclic, selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitor, or other known antidepressant agents. Its structure closely resembles that of diethylpropion. It is related to phenylethylamines. It is (+)-1-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylpropylamino)-1-propanone hydrochloride. The molecular weight is 278.2. The molecular formula is C₁₃H₁₆ClNO. Bupropion hydrochloride powder is white, crystalline, and highly soluble in water. It has a bitter taste and produces the sensation of local anesthesia on the oral mucosa. The structural formula is:



DESCRIPTION

ZYBAN (bupropion hydrochloride) Sustained-Release Tablets are a non-nicotine aid to smoking cessation. ZYBAN is chemically unrelated to nicotine or other agents currently used in the treatment of nicotine addiction. Initially developed and marketed as an antidepressant (WELLBUTRIN (bupropion hydrochloride) Tablets and WELLBUTRIN SR (bupropion hydrochloride) Sustained-Release Tablets), ZYBAN is also chemically unrelated to tricyclic, tetracyclic, selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitor, or other known antidepressant agents. Its structure closely resembles that of diethylpropion. It is related to phenylethylamines. It is (+)-1-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-(1,1-dimethylpropylamino)-1-propanone hydrochloride. The molecular weight is 278.2. The molecular formula is C₁₃H₁₆ClNO. Bupropion hydrochloride powder is white, crystalline, and highly soluble in water. It has a bitter taste and produces the sensation of local anesthesia on the oral mucosa. The structural formula is:



ZYBAN®
(bupropion hydrochloride)
Sustained-Release Tablets

ZYBAN is supplied for oral administration as 150-mg (purple), film-coated, sustained-release tablets.

Each tablet contains the labeled amount of bupropion hydrochloride and the inactive ingredients carnauba wax, cysteine hydrochloride, hypromellose, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, polyethylene glycol, polysorbate 80 and titanium dioxide and is printed with edible black ink. In addition, the 150-mg tablet contains FD&C Blue No. 2 Lake and FD&C Red No. 40 Lake.

CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

Pharmacodynamics: Bupropion is a relatively weak inhibitor of the neuronal uptake of norepinephrine, serotonin, and dopamine, and does not inhibit monoamine oxidase. The mechanism by which ZYBAN enhances the ability of patients to abstain from smoking is unknown. However, it is presumed that this action is mediated by noradrenergic and/or dopaminergic mechanisms.

Pharmacokinetics: Bupropion is a racemic mixture. The pharmacologic activity and pharmacokinetics of the individual enantiomers have not been studied. Bupropion follows biphasic pharmacokinetics best described by a 2-compartment model. The terminal phase has a mean half-life of about 21 hours ($\pm 20\%$), while the distribution phase has a mean half-life of 3 to 4 hours.

Absorption: Bupropion has not been administered intrinsically to humans; therefore, the absolute bioavailability of ZYBAN Sustained-Release Tablets in humans has not been determined. In rat and dog studies, the bioavailability of bupropion ranged from 5% to 20%.

Following oral administration of ZYBAN to healthy volunteers, peak plasma concentrations of bupropion are achieved within 2 hours. The mean peak concentration (C_{max}) values were 61 and 142 ng/mL from 2 single doses (150-mg) studies. At steady state, the mean C_{max} following a 150-mg dose every 12 hours is 136 ng/mL.

In a single-dose study, food increased the C_{max} of bupropion by 11% and the extent of absorption (as defined by area under the plasma concentration-time curve (AUC) by 7%. The mean time to peak concentration (T_{max}) was prolonged by 1 hour. This effect was of no clinical significance.

Distribution: In vitro tests show that bupropion is 94% bound to human plasma proteins at concentrations up to 200 mcg/mL. The extent of protein binding of the hydroxybupropion metabolite is similar to that for bupropion, whereas the extent of protein binding of the threohydroxybupropion metabolite is about half that seen with bupropion. The volume of distribution (V_d/F) estimated from a single 150-mg dose given to 17 subjects is 1,950 L (20% CV).

Metabolism: Bupropion is extensively metabolized in humans. Three metabolites have been shown to be active: hydroxybupropion, which is formed via hydroxylation of the *tert*-butyl group of bupropion, and the amino-alcohol isomers threohydroxybupropion and erythrohydroxybupropion, which are formed via reduction of the carbonyl group. In vitro findings suggest that cytochrome P4501B6 (CYP2B6) is the principal isoenzyme involved in the formation of hydroxybupropion, while cytochrome P450 isoenzymes are not involved in the formation of threohydroxybupropion. Oxidation of the bupropion side chain results in the formation of a glycine conjugate of meta-chlorobenzoic acid, which is then excreted as the major urinary metabolite. The potency and toxicity of the metabolites relative to bupropion have not been fully characterized. However, it has been demonstrated in an antidepressant screening test in mice that hydroxybupropion is one half as potent as bupropion, while threohydroxybupropion and erythrohydroxybupropion are 5-fold less potent than bupropion. This may be of clinical importance because the plasma concentrations of the metabolites are as high or higher than those of bupropion.

Because bupropion is extensively metabolized, there is the potential for drug-drug interactions, particularly with those agents that are metabolized by the cytochrome P4501B6 (CYP2B6) isoenzyme. Although bupropion is not metabolized by cytochrome P4502D6 (CYP2D6), there is the potential for drug-drug interactions when bupropion is co-administered with drugs metabolized by this isoenzyme (see PRECAUTIONS: Drug Interactions).

Following a single dose in humans, peak plasma concentrations of hydroxybupropion occur approximately 6 hours after administration of ZYBAN Tablets. Peak plasma concentrations of hydroxybupropion are approximately 10 times the peak level of the parent drug at steady state. The elimination half-life of hydroxybupropion is approximately 20 (± 5) hours, and its AUC at steady state is about 17 times that of bupropion. The times to peak concentrations for the erythrohydroxybupropion and threohydroxybupropion metabolites are similar to that of the hydroxybupropion metabolite; however, their elimination half-lives are longer: 33 (± 10) and 37 (± 13) hours, respectively, and steady-state AUCs are 1.5 and 7 times that of bupropion, respectively.

Bupropion and its metabolites exhibit linear kinetics following chronic administration of 300 to 450 mg/day. **Elimination:** The mean (\pm CV) apparent clearance (CL/F) estimated from 2 single-dose (150-mg) studies are 135 ($\pm 20\%$) and 209 L/hr ($\pm 21\%$). Following chronic dosing of 150 mg of ZYBAN every 12 hours for 14 days ($n = 34$), the mean CL/F at steady state was 160 L/hr ($\pm 23\%$). The mean elimination half-life of bupropion estimated from a series of studies is approximately 21 hours. Estimates of the half-lives of the metabolites determined from a multiple-dose study were 20 hours ($\pm 25\%$) for hydroxybupropion, 37 hours ($\pm 35\%$) for threohydroxybupropion, and 33 hours ($\pm 30\%$) for erythrohydroxybupropion. Steady-state plasma concentrations of bupropion and metabolites are reached within 5 and 8 days, respectively.

Following oral administration of 200 mg of ¹⁴C-bupropion for 14 days, 87% and 10% of the radioactive dose were recovered in the urine and feces, respectively. The fraction of the oral dose of bupropion excreted unchanged was only 0.5%.

ZYBAN® (bupropion hydrochloride) Sustained-Release Tablets

The effects of cigarette smoking on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion were studied in 34 healthy male and female volunteers; 17 were chronic cigarette smokers and 17 were nonsmokers. Following oral administration of a single 150-mg dose of ZYBAN, there was no statistically significant difference in C_{max} , half-life, T_{max} , AUC, or clearance of bupropion or its major metabolites between smokers and nonsmokers.

In a study comparing the treatment combination of ZYBAN and nicotine transdermal system (NTS) versus ZYBAN alone, no statistically significant differences were observed between the 2 treatment groups of combination ZYBAN and NTS ($n = 197$) and ZYBAN alone ($n = 193$) in the plasma concentrations of bupropion or its active metabolites at weeks 3 and 6.

Population Subgroups: Factors or conditions altering metabolic capacity (e.g., liver disease, congestive heart failure, age, concomitant medications, etc.) or elimination may be expected to influence the degree and extent of accumulation of the active metabolites of bupropion. The elimination of the major metabolites of bupropion may be affected by reduced renal or hepatic function because they are moderately polar compounds and are likely to undergo further metabolism or conjugation in the liver prior to urinary excretion.

Hepatic: The effect of hepatic impairment on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion was characterized in 2 single-dose studies, one in patients with alcoholic liver disease and one in patients with mild to severe cirrhosis. The first study showed that the half-life of hydroxybupropion was significantly longer in 8 patients with alcoholic liver disease than in 8 healthy volunteers (52±14 hours versus 21±5 hours, respectively). Although not statistically significant, the AUCs for bupropion and hydroxybupropion were more variable and tended to be greater (by 53% to 57%) in patients with alcoholic liver disease. The differences in half-life for bupropion and the other metabolites in the 2 patient groups were minimal.

The second study showed that there were no statistically significant differences in the pharmacokinetics of bupropion and its active metabolites in 9 patients with mild to moderate hepatic cirrhosis compared to 8 healthy volunteers. However, more variability was observed in some of the pharmacokinetic parameters for bupropion (AUC, C_{max} , and T_{max}) and its active metabolites ($t_{1/2}$) in patients with mild to moderate hepatic cirrhosis. In addition, in patients with severe hepatic cirrhosis, the bupropion C_{max} and AUC were substantially increased (mean differences: by approximately 70% and 5-fold, respectively) and more variable when compared to values in healthy volunteers; the mean bupropion half-life was also longer (29 hours in patients with severe hepatic cirrhosis vs. 19 hours in healthy subjects). For the metabolite hydroxybupropion, the mean C_{max} was approximately 69% lower.

For the combined amino-alcohol isomers threohydroxybupropion and erythrohydroxybupropion, the mean C_{max} was approximately 51% lower. The mean AUC increased by 28% for hydroxybupropion and 50% for threohydroxybupropion.

The median T_{max} was observed 19 hours later for hydroxybupropion and 21 hours later for threohydroxybupropion. The mean half-lives for hydroxybupropion and threohydroxybupropion were increased 2- and 4-fold, respectively, in patients with severe hepatic cirrhosis compared to healthy volunteers (see WARNINGS, PRECAUTIONS, and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Renal: The effect of renal disease on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion has not been studied. The elimination of the major metabolites of bupropion may be affected by reduced renal function.

Left Ventricular Dysfunction: During a chronic dosing study with bupropion in 14 depressed patients with left ventricular dysfunction (history of congestive heart failure [CHF] on an enlarged heart on x-ray), no apparent effect on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion or its metabolites, compared to healthy normal volunteers, was revealed.

Age: The effects of age on the pharmacokinetics of bupropion and its metabolites have not been fully characterized, but an exploration of steady-state bupropion concentrations from several depression efficacy studies involving patients dosed in a range of 300 to 750 mg/day, on a 3 times a day schedule, revealed no relationship between age (18 to 83 years) and plasma concentration of bupropion. A single-dose pharmacokinetic study demonstrated that the disposition of bupropion and its metabolites in elderly subjects was similar to that of younger subjects. These data suggest there is no prominent effect of age on bupropion concentration; however, another pharmacokinetic study, single and multiple dose, has suggested that the elderly are at increased risk for accumulation of bupropion and its metabolites (see PRECAUTIONS: Geriatric Use).

Gender: A single-dose study involving 12 healthy male and 12 healthy female volunteers revealed no sex-related differences in the pharmacokinetic parameters of bupropion.

CLINICAL TRIALS

The efficacy of ZYBAN as an aid to smoking cessation was demonstrated in 3 placebo-controlled, double-blind trials in nondepressed chronic cigarette smokers ($n = 1,940$, ≥ 15 cigarettes per day). In these studies, ZYBAN was used in conjunction with individual smoking cessation counseling.

The first study was a dose-response, 4-week clinical trial. Patients in this study were treated for 7 weeks with 1 of 3 doses of ZYBAN (100, 150, or 300 mg/day) or placebo; quitting was defined as total abstinence during the last 4 weeks of treatment (weeks 4 through 7). Abstinence was determined by patient daily diaries and verified by carbon monoxide levels in expired air.

Results of this dose-response trial with ZYBAN demonstrated a dose-dependent increase in the percentage of patients able to achieve 4-week abstinence (weeks 4 through 7). Treatment with ZYBAN at both 150 and 300 mg/day was significantly more effective than placebo in this study.

Table 1 presents quit rates over time in the multicenter trial by treatment group. The quit rates are the proportions of all persons initially enrolled (i.e., intent to treat analysis) who abstained from week 4 of the study through the specified week. Treatment with ZYBAN (150 or 300 mg/day) was more effective than placebo in helping patients achieve 4-week abstinence. In addition, treatment with ZYBAN (7 weeks at 300 mg/day) was more effective than placebo in helping patients maintain continuous abstinence through week 26 (6 months) of the study.

Table 1. Dose-Response Trial: Quit Rates by Treatment Group

| | Treatment Groups | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Placebo (n = 151) | ZYBAN 100 mg/day (n = 153) | ZYBAN 150 mg/day (n = 153) | ZYBAN 300 mg/day (n = 156) |
| Abstinence From Week 4 Through Specified Week | (95% CI) | (95% CI) | (95% CI) | (95% CI) |
| Week 7 (4-week quit) | 17% (11-23) | 22% (15-28) | 27%* (20-35) | 36%* (28-43) |
| Week 12 | 14% (8-19) | 20% (13-26) | 20% (14-27) | 25%* (18-32) |
| Week 26 | 11% (6-16) | 16% (11-22) | 18% (12-24) | 19%* (13-25) |

*Significantly different from placebo ($p \leq 0.05$).

The second study was a comparative trial conducted at 4 clinical centers. Four treatments were evaluated: ZYBAN 300 mg/day, nicotine transdermal system (NTS) 21 mg/day, combination of ZYBAN 300 mg/day plus NTS 21 mg/day and placebo. Patients were treated for 9 weeks with ZYBAN was initiated at 150 mg/day while the patient was still smoking and was increased after 3 days to 300 mg/day given as 150 mg twice daily. NTS 21 mg/day was added to treatment with ZYBAN after approximately 1 week when the patient reached the target quit date. During weeks 8 and 9 of the study, NTS was tapered to 14 and 7 mg/day, respectively. Quitting, defined as total abstinence during weeks 4 through 7, was determined by patient daily diaries and verified by expired air carbon monoxide levels in this study. Patients treated with any of the 3 treatments achieved greater 4-week abstinence rates than patients treated with placebo.

Table 2 presents quit rates over time by treatment group for the comparative trial.

ZYBAN® (bupropion hydrochloride) Sustained-Release Tablets

Table 2. Comparative Trial: Quit Rates by Treatment Group

| | Treatment Groups | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|
| | Placebo (n = 160) | Nicotine Transdermal System (NTS) 21 mg/day (n = 244) | ZYBAN 300 mg/day (n = 244) | ZYBAN 300 mg/day and NTS 21 mg/day (n = 245) |
| Abstinence From Week 4 Through Specified Week | (95% CI) | (95% CI) | (95% CI) | (95% CI) |
| Week 7 (4-week quit) | 23% (17-30) | 36% (30-42) | 49% (43-56) | 58% (51-64) |
| Week 10 | 20% (14-26) | 32% (26-37) | 46% (39-52) | 51% (45-58) |

When patients in this study were followed out to one year, the superiority of ZYBAN and the combination of ZYBAN and NTS over placebo in helping patients to achieve abstinence from smoking was maintained. The continuous abstinence rate was 30% (95% CI 24-35) in the ZYBAN treated patients, and 33% (95% CI 27-39) for patients treated with the combination at 26 weeks compared with 13% (95% CI 7-18) in the placebo group. At 52 weeks, the continuous abstinence rate was 23% (95% CI 18-28) in the ZYBAN treated patients, and 28% (95% CI 23-34) for patients treated with the combination, compared with 8% (95% CI 3-12) in the placebo group. Although the treatment combination of ZYBAN and NTS displayed the highest rates of continuous abstinence throughout the study, the quit rates for the combination were not significantly higher ($p > 0.05$) than for ZYBAN alone.

The comparisons between ZYBAN, NTS, and combination treatment in this study have not been replicated, and, therefore should not be interpreted as demonstrating the superiority of any of the active treatment arms over another.

The third study was a long-term maintenance trial conducted at 5 clinical centers. Patients in this study received open-label ZYBAN 300 mg/day for 7 weeks. Patients who quit smoking while receiving ZYBAN were randomized to ZYBAN 300 mg/day or placebo for a total study duration of 1 year. Abstinence from smoking was determined by patient self-report and verified by expired air carbon monoxide levels. This trial demonstrated that at 6 months, continuous abstinence rates were significantly higher for patients continuing to receive ZYBAN than for those switched to placebo ($p < 0.05$; 55% versus 44%).

Quit rates in clinical trials are influenced by the population selected. Quit rates in an unselected population may be lower than the above rates. Quit rates for ZYBAN were similar in patients with and without prior quit attempts using nicotine replacement therapy.

Treatment with ZYBAN reduced withdrawal symptoms compared to placebo. Reductions on the following withdrawal symptoms were most pronounced: irritability, frustration, or anger; anxiety; difficulty concentrating; restlessness; and depressed mood or negative affect. Depending on the study and the measure used, treatment with ZYBAN showed evidence of reduction in craving for cigarettes or urge to smoke compared to placebo.

Use in Patients With Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD): ZYBAN was evaluated in a randomized, double-blind, comparative study of 404 patients with mild-to-moderate COPD, defined as FEV₁ $\geq 55\%$, FEV₁/FVC $\geq 70\%$, and a diagnosis of chronic bronchitis, emphysema and/or small airways disease. Patients aged 36 to 76 years were randomized to ZYBAN 300 mg/day ($n = 204$) or placebo ($n = 200$) and treated for 12 weeks. Treatment with ZYBAN was initiated at 150 mg/day for 3 days while the patient was still smoking and increased to 150 mg twice daily for the remaining treatment period. Abstinence from smoking was determined by patient daily diaries and verified by carbon monoxide levels in expired air. Quitters are defined as patients who were abstinent during the last 4 weeks of treatment. Table 3 shows quit rates in the COPD Trial.

Table 3. COPD Trial: Quit Rates by Treatment Group

| | Treatment Groups | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Placebo (n = 200) | ZYBAN 300 mg/day (n = 204) |
| 4-Week Abstinence Period | (95% CI) | (95% CI) |
| Weeks 9 through 12 | 12% (8-16) | 22%* (17-27) |

*Significantly different from placebo ($p < 0.05$).

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

ZYBAN is indicated as an aid to smoking cessation treatment.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

ZYBAN is contraindicated in patients with a seizure disorder. ZYBAN is contraindicated in patients treated with WELLBUTRIN, WELLBUTRIN SR, WELLBUTRIN XL, or any other medications that contain bupropion because the incidence of seizure is dose dependent. ZYBAN is contraindicated in patients with a current or prior diagnosis of bulimia or anorexia nervosa because of a higher incidence of seizures noted in patients treated for bulimia with the immediate-release formulation of bupropion.

ZYBAN is contraindicated in patients undergoing abrupt discontinuation of alcohol or sedatives (including benzodiazepines). The concurrent administration of ZYBAN and a monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitor is contraindicated. At least 14 days should elapse between discontinuation of an MAO inhibitor and initiation of treatment with ZYBAN.

ZYBAN is contraindicated in patients who have shown an allergic response to bupropion or the other ingredients that make up ZYBAN.

WARNINGS

Clinical Worsening and Suicide Risk: Patients with major depressive disorder (MDD), both adult and pediatric, who experience worsening of their depression and/or the emergence of suicidal ideation (suicidality) or unusual changes in behavior, whether or not they are taking antidepressant medications, and this risk may persist until significant remission occurs. There has been a long-standing concern that antidepressants may have a role in inducing worsening of depression and the emergence of suicidality in certain patients. Antidepressants increased the risk of suicidal thinking and behavior (suicidality) in short-term studies in children and adolescents with Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) and other psychiatric disorders.

Pooled analyses of short-term placebo-controlled trials of 9 antidepressant drugs (SSRIs and others) in children and adolescents with MDD, OCD, or other psychiatric disorders (a total of 24 trials involving over 4,400 patients) have revealed a greater risk of adverse events representing suicidal behavior or thinking (suicidality) during the first few months of treatment in those receiving antidepressants. The average risk of such events in patients receiving antidepressants was 4%, twice the placebo risk of 2%. There was considerable variation in risk among drugs, but a tendency toward an increase for all most drugs studied. The risk of suicidality was most consistently observed in the MDD trials, but there were signals of risk arising from some trials in other psychiatric indications (obsessive compulsive disorder and social anxiety disorder) as well. **No suicides occurred in any of these trials.** It is unknown whether the suicidality risk in pediatric patients extends to longer-term use, i.e., beyond several months. It is also unknown whether the suicidality risk extends to adults.

All pediatric patients being treated with antidepressants for any indication should be observed closely for clinical worsening, suicidality, and unusual changes in behavior, especially during the initial few months of a course of drug therapy, or at times of dose changes, either increases or decreases. Such observation would generally include at least weekly face-to-face contact with patients or their family members or caregivers during the first 4 weeks of treatment, then every other week visits for the next 4 weeks, then at 12 weeks, and as clinically indicated beyond 12 weeks. Additional contact by telephone may be appropriate between face-to-face visits.

Adults with MDD or co-morbid depression in the setting of other psychiatric illness being treated with antidepressants should be observed similarly for clinical worsening and suicidality, especially during the initial few months of treatment or the worsening of depression and/or the emergence of suicidal ideation or suicidal thoughts or suicide attempts, and as clinically indicated beyond 12 weeks. Additional contact by telephone may be appropriate between face-to-face visits.

In addition, patients with a history of suicidal behavior or thoughts, those patients exhibiting a significant degree of suicidal ideation prior to commencement of treatment, and young adults, are at an increased risk of suicidal thoughts or suicide attempts, and should receive careful monitoring during treatment.

The following symptoms, anxiety, agitation, panic attacks, insomnia, irritability, hostility, aggressiveness, impulsivity, akathisia (psychomotor restlessness), hypomania, and mania, have been reported in adult and pediatric patients being treated with antidepressants for major depressive disorder as well as for other indications, both psychiatric and nonpsychiatric. Although a causal link between the emergence of such symptoms and either the worsening of depression and/or the emergence of suicidal impulses has not been established, there is concern that such symptoms may represent precursors to emerging suicidality. Consideration should be given to changing the therapeutic regimen, including possibly discontinuing the medication, in patients whose depression is persistently worse, or who are experiencing emergent suicidality or symptoms that might be precursors to worsening depression or suicidality, especially if these symptoms are severe, abrupt in onset, or were not part of the patient's presenting symptoms.

Families and caregivers of pediatric patients being treated with antidepressants for major depressive disorder or other indications, both psychiatric and nonpsychiatric, should be alerted about the need to monitor patients for the emergence of agitation, irritability, unusual changes in behavior, and the other symptoms described above, as well as the emergence of suicidality, and to report such symptoms immediately to health care providers. Such monitoring should include daily observation by families and caregivers. Prescriptions for ZYBAN should be written for the smallest quantity of tablets consistent with good patient management, in order to reduce the risk of overdose. Families and caregivers of adults being treated for depression should be similarly advised.

Screening Patients for Bipolar Disorder: A major depressive episode may be the initial presentation of bipolar disorder. It is generally believed (though not established in controlled trials) that treating such an episode with an antidepressant alone may increase the likelihood of precipitation of a mixed/manic episode in patients at risk for bipolar disorder. Whether any of the symptoms described above represent such a conversion is unknown. However, prior to initiating treatment with an antidepressant, patients with depressive symptoms should be adequately screened to determine if they are at risk for bipolar disorder; such screening should include a detailed psychiatric history, including a family history of suicide, bipolar disorder, and depression. It should be noted that ZYBAN is not approved for use in treating bipolar depression.

Patients should be made aware that ZYBAN contains the same active ingredient found in WELLBUTRIN, WELLBUTRIN SR, and WELLBUTRIN XL, and that ZYBAN should not be used in combination with WELLBUTRIN, WELLBUTRIN SR, WELLBUTRIN XL, or any other medications that contain bupropion.

Seizures: Because the use of bupropion is associated with a dose-dependent risk of seizures, *clinicians should not prescribe doses over 300 mg/day for smoking cessation.* The risk of seizures is also related to patient factors, clinical situation, and concurrent medications, which must be considered in selection of patients for therapy with ZYBAN. ZYBAN should be discontinued and not restarted in patients who experience a seizure while on treatment.

Dose: For smoking cessation, doses above 300 mg/day should not be used. The seizure rate associated with doses of sustained-release bupropion up to 300 mg/day is approximately 0.1% (1/1,000). This rate increases to approximately

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